

Descriptions of Five New Species of UNIONIDÆ and One PALUDINA of the United States.

BY ISAAC LEA.

UNIO BISSELIANUS.—Testa lævi, oblonga, sublenticulari, inæquilaterali, postice obtuso-angulata, antice rotunda; valvulis subcrassis, antice aliquanto crassioribus; natibus prominulis, ad apices concentrico-undulatis; epidermide tenebroso-oliva, obsolete radiata; dentibus cardinalibus crassiusculis, compressis, subelevatis crenulatisque; lateralibus sublongis, lamellatis subcurvisque; margarita carnea et valde iridescente.

*Hab.*—Bissel's Pond, Charlotte, N. C., C. M. Wheatley.

UNIO CLINCHENSIS.—Testa lævi, triangulari, ad latere planulata, valde inæquilaterali, postice obtuse angulata, antice rotundata; valvulis crassis, antice crassioribus; natibus prominentibus; epidermide luteola, ad latere radiata; dentibus cardinalibus crassis, subcompressis corrugatisque; lateralibus percrassis, curtis et obliquis; margarita alba et iridescente.

*Hab.*—Clinch River, Tenn., Pres. Estabrook, and French Broad River, Dr. Edgar.

UNIO JEWETTII.—Testa lævi, oblonga, subinflata, valde inæquilaterali, postice obtuse angulata, antice rotundata; valvulis subtenuis, natibus prominulis, ad apices concentrico-undulatis; epidermide fusca; dentibus cardinalibus parvis, obliquis, compressis; lateralibus, prælongis lamellatisque; margarita alba et iridescente.

*Hab.*—Florida, Col. Jewett.

MARGARITANA COLUMBENSIS.—Testa lævi, elliptica, valde inflata, subequilaterali, postice obtuse angulata, antice rotundata; valvulis tenuibus; natibus prominentibus, ad apices uudulatis; epidermide luteola, obsolete radiata; dentibus cardinalibus parvis, sublobatis; margarita alba et aliquanto iridescente.

*Hab.*—Tombigbee River, near Columbus, Miss., W. Spillman, M. D.

ANODONTA YOUCONENSIS.—Testa lævi, elliptica, valde inflata, valde inæquilaterali, postice subbiangulata, antice rotundata; valvulis subcrassis; natibus prominulis, aliquanto undulatis; epidermide tenebroso-fusca, radiata; margarita albida.

*Hab.*—Head waters of the Youcon, Arctic America.

PALUDINA SPILLMANII.—Testa transverse exillissime striata, obtuse carinata, subelliptica, subtenui, imperforata; spira aliquanto exserta; suturis impressis, anfractibus quinis, subinflatis; apertura parviuscula, ovata, iutus cæruleo-alba; labro acuto, parum sinuoso; columella parum iucrassata.

*Hab.*—Jackson Co., Alabama, W. Spillman, M. D.

Description of a New Genus of Plants.

BY ALPHONSO WOOD.

BREVOORTIA, nov. gen.

Perianthium corollaceum (coccineum), tubuliforme, supernè ventricosum fauce remissè contractâ, regulare, persistens; limbo 6-partito, laciniis ovatis, obtusis, arcè revolutis, sexies tubo brevioribus. Corona (flava) brevis, erecta, tribus squamis truncatis integris, bis latioribus quam longis, constituta. Stamina 3, squamas excedentia. Filamenta per totam longitudinem tubo adnata, interioribus laciniis opposita, ac cum squamis alternantia. Anthere liberæ oblongo-lineares, extrorsæ, apice obtusæ, basi profundè bifidæ ibique inserte. Ovarium liberum, ovatum, triloculare. Ovula in loculis 3—5, uniseriata. Stylus continuus, erectus, longitudine perianthii. Stigma capitatum, trilobatum. Capsula?

1867.]

*Herba glabra, scapigera (bulbosa?)*. Folia 5—7, linearia, canaliculata, obtusa. Scapus teres, erectus, rigidus, 2—4 pedalis, longitudine foliorum. Flores 8—12, in apice scapi umbellati, unciales, nutantes, spathâ 4-valvi suffulti; pedicellis 1—2 polycaribus diffusis; bracteis ovato-lanceolatis, purpureis.

**B. IDA-MAIA.** Grows in deep rich soil on high hills of the Trinity Mt. Range, Shasta county, California, near the stage-road from Shasta City to Yreka. I saw it here in full bloom about the first of June, 1866, occupying a space of several acres. The leaves are very long and narrow, and recurved. The scape, although slender, is rigidly erect, of three, or even four feet high, round, smooth, wavy, and bearing at the top an umbel of about twelve scarlet or bright red flowers, nodding on their slender, recurved, unequal foot-stalks. The form of the perianth is between cylindric and pyriform, about one inch in length, with the limb very short, of six valvate lobes. Before opening, these lobes are chrome-green in color, making a peculiar contrast. After opening they are yellow. The three leaves (scales) constituting the corolla are yellow, one line in length by two or three lines in breadth, occupying the place of, but in no wise resembling abortive stamens. Unfortunately I found no specimen in fruit; neither did I secure a bulb, so deeply buried were they, and so impatient of delay were my fellow passengers. The whole plant possesses singular grace and beauty, and few are better worthy of a place in the flower garden.

The new genus *Brevoortia* is nearly allied to *Brodiaea* (Smith), *Dichelostemma* (Kunth), *Stropholirion* (Torr.), &c., of the Natural Order Liliaceæ, tribe Asphodeleæ. All have the floral envelopes more or less united, with only three perfect stamens. Other three stamens (usual to the Liliaceæ) are variously transformed, as in the following Synopsis:

**LEUCOCORYNE**, three abortive filaments subulate or clavate.

**BRODIAEA**, three abortive filaments lanceolate-spatulate.

**DICHELOSTEMMA**, three abortive filaments petaloid, bifid,—a 3-lobed crown.

**STROPHOLIRION**, three abortive filaments petaloid, 2-parted,—a 6-lobed crown.

**BREVOORTIA**, three abortive filaments petaloid, entire, twice broader than long, truncate, with no semblance of stamens remaining. The perianth also wholly diverse in form from that of the four preceding.

This plant was first noticed by Mr. Burke, stage-driver, in his daily route, and by him my own attention was first called to it. He had given it the name of "*Ida May*, in affection for his little daughter,"—a name quite appropriate, moreover, as on the Ides (*i. e.* the 15th) of May, the plant begins to flower. Mr. Burke was confident that this was its only locality. Probably, however, it may yet be found in many other places in northern California.

We dedicate this genus to J. Carson Brevoort, of Brooklyn, a Regent of the University of the State of New York, himself an earnest naturalist, and a liberal patron of science.

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*June 4th.*

The President, DR. HAYS, in the Chair.

Twenty-eight members present.

The death of Miss Margaretta H. Morris, member of the Academy, was announced.

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*June 11th.*

The President, DR. HAYS, in the Chair.

Thirty-six members present.

[June,